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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/088,217	06/01/1998	MASAYUKI MOROTA	B208-960	1472

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EXAMINER

HANNETT, JAMES M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2612

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2004

17

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/088,217

Applicant(s)

MOROTA ET AL.

Examiner

James M Hannett

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 December 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,8,9,11-14,18,19,21-24,28,29 and 31-45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,8,9,11-14,18,19,21-24,28 and 29 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 31-45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 June 1998 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1: Claims 31-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EP 0 715 453

Kawai et al.

2: In regards to Claim 31, Kawai depicts in Figure 2, a map window for displaying a map. Kawai teaches in the abstract that along with a map, icons or first camera index display means indicating the positions of cameras are displayed on the map so that the directions of the cameras can be identified on the map. Kawai further depicts in Figures 14, 13a, 13b and discusses on Column 12, Lines 35-44 a second camera index on the map (155) to display a second camera index indicative of the current state of tilting direction. Kawai depicts in Figures (1 and 2) and teaches on Column 7, Lines 1-12 that the system includes a camera input selector (32) and video capture device (34) within a communicating device or camera operating unit (20) adapted to receive an image picked up by the selected camera and output the image to the image window (44). Kawai teaches in Figures 13a, 13b, and on Column 14, Lines 12-32 that by dragging a tilt line indicator (155) the tilting direction of the selected camera can be controlled. Kawai and teaches on Column 7, Lines 1-12 that the communicating device or camera operating unit (20) controls the functions of the cameras. Kawai teaches in Figure 14 and on Column 12, Lines 38-43 that in response to selecting the camera icon on the map display, symbols depicting a pan

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direction line, zoom lines, and tilt line are displayed. Kawai depicts in Figure 14 an icon comprised of lines (152), (153), (154), and (155). Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 12-32 that the tilt line (155) indicates the current state of the tilting direction. Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 19-26 and in Figure 13a and 13b that an isosceles triangle is formed by the two zoom lines having the point C as the start and the base of the triangle is the furthest distance the tilt line can travel. Therefore, the controllable range of the tilt line is limited to the intersection of the two zoom lines and at the end point of the two zoom lines corresponding to the downward most direction and upward most direction. Furthermore, the location of the tilt line indicates the current tilting direction of the selected camera. Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 12-32 and depicts in Figures 13a and 13b that the tilt line can be dragged or scrolled in a direction to approach or separate from the camera icon. Furthermore, the tilting direction display means or the tilt line (153) is arranged to perpendicularly intersect the centerline (or scroll bar). The location of this intersection on the centerline indicates the current image pickup direction in the vertical direction.

3: As for Claim 32, Kawai depicts in Figure 2, a map window for displaying a map. Kawai teaches in the abstract that along with a map, icons or first camera index display means indicating the positions of cameras are displayed on the map so that the directions of the cameras can be identified on the map. Kawai teaches in Figure 14 and on Column 12, Lines 38-43 that in response to selecting the camera icon on the map display, symbols depicting a pan direction line, zoom lines, and tilt line are displayed.

4: In regards to Claim 33, Kawai depicts in Figure 14 that the current tilt angle for the selected camera is displayed in a camera control window (46). Therefore, the tilting direction

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display control device display a numerical value of tilting direction, in accordance with the position of the scroll bar (155).

5: As for Claim 34, Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 12-32 and depicts in Figures 13a and 13b that the tilt line can be dragged or scrolled in a direction to approach or separate from the camera icon. Therefore, the action of dragged a tilt line along the centerline corresponds to the actions of a scroll bar. Furthermore, the change in location of the tilt line is viewed by the examiner as a change of shape of the designated camera index implemented in accordance with the dragging a pointer on the camera index.

6: In regards to Claim 35, Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 12-32 and depicts in Figures 13a and 13b that the tilt line can be dragged or scrolled in a direction to approach or separate from the camera icon. Therefore, the action of dragged a tilt line along the centerline corresponds to the actions of a scroll bar. Therefore, the camera index display control device displays the camera index in association with the change of the position of the scroll bar.

7: As for Claim 36, Claim 36 is rejected for reasons related to Claim 31, since Claim 31 is substantively equivalent to Claim 36.

8: In regards to Claim 37, Claim 37 is rejected for reasons related to Claim 32, since Claim 32 is substantively equivalent to Claim 37.

9: As for Claim 38, Claim 38 is rejected for reasons related to Claim 33, since Claim 33 is substantively equivalent to Claim 38.

10: In regards to Claim 39, Claim 39 is rejected for reasons related to Claim 34, since Claim 34 is substantively equivalent to Claim 39.

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11: As for Claim 40, Claim 40 is rejected for reasons related to Claim 35, since Claim 35 is substantively equivalent to Claim 40.

12: In regards to Claim 41, Claim 41 is rejected for reasons related to Claim 31, since Claim 31 is substantively equivalent to Claim 41.

13: As for Claim 42, Claim 42 is rejected for reasons related to Claim 32, since Claim 32 is substantively equivalent to Claim 42.

14: In regards to Claim 43, Claim 43 is rejected for reasons related to Claim 33, since Claim 33 is substantively equivalent to Claim 43.

15: As for Claim 44, Claim 44 is rejected for reasons related to Claim 34, since Claim 34 is substantively equivalent to Claim 44.

16: In regards to Claim 45, Claim 45 is rejected for reasons related to Claim 35, since Claim 35 is substantively equivalent to Claim 45.

Allowable Subject Matter

17: Claims 1-4, 8, 9, 11-14, 18, 19, 21-24, 28 and 29 allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art does not teach or suggest the use of A camera control system wherein a tilting direction control device is adapted to display information on the current tilting direction of a camera which corresponds to a designated second camera index and information on the controllable range in the tilting direction of the camera in response to designating the second camera index, by using a scroll bar. Furthermore, the prior art does not teach wherein the tilting direction display control device displays the information of the current tilting direction of the

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camera and information on the controllable range in association with the change of shape of the second camera index.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James M Hannett whose telephone number is 703-305-7880. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:00 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on 703-305-4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

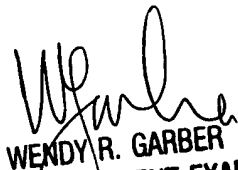
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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

James M. Hannett
Examiner
Art Unit 2612

JMH
March 18, 2004


WENDY R. GARBER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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